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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 474

By Ridgeway

A RESOLUTION To recognize Jim Travis, political correspondent for WSMV-TV, on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who, in their years of work, have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Jim Travis is one such estimable person who has served with probity for over 20 years with WSMV-TV, as a political correspondent; and

WHEREAS, Jim was born in Urbana, Illinois and raised in Tulsa, Oklahoma; as a student at the University of Tulsa, he began his career in broadcasting at the campus radio station 41 years ago; and

WHEREAS, Graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Business and Economics, Mr. Travis served briefly in the military and then worked for several radio and television stations in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, In 1970, Jim accepted a position with Channel 8 in Nashville, staying with the station during its frequency swap to become Channel 2; in 1980, he moved to WSMV-TV where he quickly distinguished himself as an outstanding political commentator; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Travis was awarded the George Foster Peabody Award for a series of documentaries in 1982 in recognition of his outstanding reporting; his three-decade career of broadcasting in Nashville has included coverage of four Tennessee Governors, Al Gore's presidential and vice-presidential campaigns, four National Democratic Conventions, most of the gubernatorial inaugurations, and innumerable debates and issues involving political figures in the United States Congress, the Tennessee General Assembly, the offices of Governor and President, and other local, state and national stories too numerous to mention; and

WHEREAS, On Friday, May 25, 2001, Jim Travis, who, it has been said, has forgotten more political stories than most people know of, will retire from his career with WSMV-TV to enjoy the benefits of leisure time; he will be able to indulge his love of bluegrass music, attend the Nashville Symphony, enjoy his hobbies of amateur radio and photography, and enjoy more time with his daughter who lives in New York City; and

WHEREAS, Jim's professional career has been characterized by high ethical standards, and his reporting has embodied the qualities of balance, clarity and accuracy; he will be missed by his broadcasting peers, his viewers, and those of us on the Hill; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his estimable career, Mr. Travis has won the confidence, respect and admiration of his peers and superiors alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we extend to Jim Travis our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.